

Message

From: Murphy, Patrick M [Patrick.M.Murphy@wv.gov]
Sent: 3/25/2019 1:30:52 PM
To: Rice, Robert [Robert.Rice@wv.gov]; Maguire, Edward F [Edward.F.Maguire@wv.gov]; Ivey, Walter M [Walter.M.Ivey@wv.gov]
CC: Ferrell, Mark [Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

I am out of town this week but will call in by cell.

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From: Rice, Robert <robert.rice@wv.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 9:28 AM
To: Maguire, Edward F; Ivey, Walter M
Cc: Ferrell, Mark; Murphy, Patrick M
Subject: RE: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

How does 2pm today work for everyone?

Call in number Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Access Code Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Maguire, Edward F <Edward.F.Maguire@wv.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 4:31 PM
To: Ivey, Walter M <Walter.M.Ivey@wv.gov>
Cc: Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov>; Ferrell, Mark <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>; Murphy, Patrick M <Patrick.M.Murphy@wv.gov>
Subject: RE: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

Thanks Walt.

I'll coordinate with Rob and Mark on Monday and one of us will be back in touch regarding setting up a joint call to discuss.

Ed Maguire

From: Ivey, Walter M <Walter.M.Ivey@wv.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 4:28 PM
To: Maguire, Edward F <Edward.F.Maguire@wv.gov>
Cc: Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov>; Ferrell, Mark <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>; Murphy, Patrick M <Patrick.M.Murphy@wv.gov>
Subject: RE: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

Ed, I have not been part of a discussion about BPH issuing a press release regarding Paden City. We have answered a few questions about the situation there. I am open to having a discussions between agencies to review. What I have heard is positive about the situation. The problem has been ongoing for awhile and has recently exceeded the MCL. I understand that some folks have been to the plant and identified some solutions that may lower the levels again. There may be a need to relook at longer solutions. We would be glad to discuss. I notice in the email string that there is a reference to Minden as well. Don't want to mix communities but we would be willing to get updated on the what is happening there as well.

Walt

From: Maguire, Edward F <Edward.F.Maguire@wv.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 2:27 PM
To: Ivey, Walter M <Walter.M.Ivey@wv.gov>
Cc: Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov>; Ferrell, Mark <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

Walt,

In a conversation with DEP's Bill Huggins yesterday, BPH's Bob Smith mentioned that you guys may be getting ready to issue some sort of press release as relates to the situation in Paden City. Is that something with which DEP and/or EPA needs to be involved?

And from BPH's perspective, are matters at Paden City at a point where a conference call between our respective agencies should be held so as to coordinate on any messaging to the public?

Ed Maguire

Edward F. Maguire II

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From: Huggins, William <William.Huggins@wv.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 3:24 PM
To: Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov>
Cc: Korbini, Casey E <Casey.E.Korbini@wv.gov>; Fletcher, Terry A <Terry.A.Fletcher@wv.gov>; Joins, Rusty T <Rusty.T.Joins@wv.gov>; McDougal, Jason S <Jason.S.McDougal@wv.gov>; Maguire, Edward F <Edward.F.Maguire@wv.gov>
Subject: Re: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

Rob -

To be clear - my counterpart at EPA (Dennis Matlock) brought this article to my attention so he and EPA are well aware.

Thanks,

Bill

William F. Huggins, Jr.
Project Manager
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Environmental Remediation
[131A Peninsula Street](#)
[Wheeling, WV 26003](#)

(304) 238-1220 (o)

(304) 382-7712 (m)

On Mar 20, 2019, at 2:56 PM, Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov> wrote:

Bill and/or Jake,

Please make our contact at EPA aware of the article and forward to anyone at BPH you've been in contact with. Find out if they (EPA/BPH) plan to hold a public meeting. Let me know what you hear and we will go from there.

Thanks

Rob

From: Huggins, William <William.Huggins@wv.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 2:30 PM

To: Rice, Robert <Robert.Rice@wv.gov>; Korbini, Casey E <Casey.E.Korbini@wv.gov>

Cc: Fletcher, Terry A <Terry.A.Fletcher@wv.gov>; Joins, Rusty T <Rusty.T.Joins@wv.gov>; McDougal, Jason S <Jason.S.McDougal@wv.gov>

Subject: Wetzel Chronicle (3-20) Editorial - Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

I forwarded this to Jake McDougal earlier so he may have already passed this article to you. Just making sure everyone is aware of it. Please see below.

Note I have a call with the Shaffer Equipment RPM until 3:30PM, but will be available to discuss afterward.

Thanks

Bill

304-382-7712 mobile

Paden City Residents Deserve Transparency, Clarity

March 20, 2019

Wetzel Chronicle

Numerical values aside, the fact remains that Paden City's drinking water contains an excess of a dry cleaning chemical considered by the EPA to be "most likely carcinogenic to humans."

However, when considering the numbers, it is argued that someone's odds of getting cancer from PCE in their drinking water would increase by one in 1 million if they consumed 17 parts per billion of the chemical over a lifetime, according to the Agency of Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Furthermore, the concentration of PCE in Paden City's water supply is 5.5 parts per billion. The maximum allowable contaminant level for the chemical set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is 5 parts per billion.

Paden City residents have been given these facts though, over and over. If they didn't attend the March 4 council meeting, when a letter was read by Mayor Clyde Hochstrasser stating the above-mentioned information, then they might have heard such from someone who did attend the council meeting. Or, perhaps they read the story when the Wetzel Chronicle released our news coverage from the meeting on our website that week. Or, perhaps they read the information the following week when each Paden City water customer received a memo-type correspondence, without a date or signature, stating the information. The news then broke regional, and even nationwide.

Still, we feel that Paden City residents are looking for more. Browsing social media, and the comments in response to this news story, we can confidently state that residents ARE looking for more than just an impersonal letter or the repetition of information from governmental agencies. Is that water safe to drink? Is the water safe to use for bathing? Are children at a higher risk of ill affects from drinking water contaminated with PCE? What about pets? Do animals have a different reaction to drinking water contaminated with PCE?

Why were residents informed about this in March, when it's been reported that the city found contamination at one of its wells about six months ago?

We recommend a town meeting which includes representatives from the local, state, and federal levels.

We recommend complete transparency and clarity. The people of Paden City deserve this.